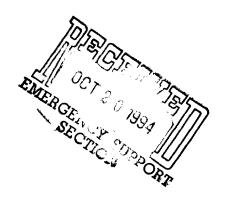
THE BOC GROUP

575 Mountain Avenue, Murray Hill, New Jersey 07974-2082 Tel: (908) 464-8100

October 14, 1994



Ms. Linda Beasley
Enforcement Specialist
U.S. EPA - Region V
Emergency Support Section HSE-5J
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Re: Conservation Chemical Company of Illinois, Inc. Site Gary, Indiana Response to General Notice Letter

Dear Ms. Beasley:

The BOC Group, Inc. for its former Airco Chemicals Division, acknowledges receipt of the General Notice Letter regarding the above-referenced Site.

While it is our company's policy to cooperate with the USEPA and PRP groups at sites where it has been demonstrated that there is or may be a basis for some responsibility on our part, we believe we have previously settled all alleged liability at the subject Site. It is our further belief, which we have previously explained and which was accepted as part of an earlier settlement of liability, that any alleged contacts with and/or shipments to the Conservation Chemical Company Site by BOC/Airco were in fact sales of lime slurry and/or lime, a product which is customarily used for the neutralization of acidic wastes.

For these reasons and based on the information which is currently available, it is not appropriate for us to make the commitment you have requested at this time. We will be reviewing our records concerning the earlier settlement, most of which have been sent off-site and could not be made available within the time constraints required for responding to your letter. Further, we plan to have a representative present at the November 10th meeting in Chicago in order to learn more about the past and proposed activities for the Site.

If these activities result in the disclosure of information which would change our current position, we will promptly advise you. We will also provide you with copies of any appropriate settlement documents to the extent that they can be disclosed to Third Parties, once same have been obtained from our off-site storage facility.

Ms. Linda Beasley October 14, 1994 Page -2-

In the meantime, further correspondence concerning the Site should be addressed as follows:

Patricia E. Fleming Assistant General Counsel and Administrative Attorney The BOC Group, Inc. 575 Mountain Avenue Murray Hill, New Jersey 07974

Phone: (908) 771-4730 Fax: (908) 771-4775 James Merriam Manager, Environmental Affairs BOC Gases 575 Mountain Avenue Murray Hill, New Jersey 07974 Phone: (908) 771-1270

Fax: (908) 771-1203

Very truly yours,

Patricia E. Fleming

Assistant General Counsel and

Administrative Attorney

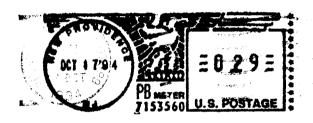
PEF/ssm

cc:

C. A. Bonnes

J. Merriam

M. Resh



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